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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE  
Southeast Regional Office  
9721 Executive Center Drive North  
St. Petersburg, FL 33702  
(727) 570-5312, FAX 570-5517  
<http://caldera.sero.nmfs.gov>

JUN 28 2002

Dear Colleague:

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Protected Resources Division has reviewed your letter pursuant to Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) concerning the programmatic environmental assessment for the management of potentially reusable uranium materials, Dept of Energy, Oak Ridge operations, letter dated May 20, 2002 to Mr. David Bernhart.

✓ We cannot determine impacts to threatened or endangered species, or designated critical habitat, under NMFS purview because the letter lacks sufficient information to evaluate the project.

✓ As requested, enclosed is a list of federally protected species under the jurisdiction of NMFS for the project area. Biological information on federally protected sea turtle species and other listed species can be found at the following website addresses: NMFS Southeast Regional Office (<http://caldera.sero.nmfs.gov/protect/protect.htm>); NMFS Office of Protected Resources ([http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/prot\\_res/prot\\_res.html](http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/prot_res/prot_res.html)); U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (<http://noflorida.fws.gov/SeaTurtles/seaturtle-info.htm>); the Ocean Conservancy (<http://www.ocean.org/main.php3>); the Caribbean Conservation Corporation (<http://www.cccturtle.org/>); and <http://www.turtles.org>

It is NMFS' opinion that the project will have **no effect** on listed species or critical habitat protected by the ESA under NMFS' purview, because there are no listed species or designated critical habitat in the project area. **No further consultation with NMFS pursuant to Section 7(a)(2) of the ESA is required.**

If you have any questions, please contact the Section 7 coordinator, Eric Hawk, at (727)570-5312, or by e-mail at [eric.hawk@noaa.gov](mailto:eric.hawk@noaa.gov).

Sincerely,

Georgia Cranmore  
Assistant Regional Administrator  
for Protected Resources

✓ Enclosure

File:1514-22.b. General correspondence

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AMESQ

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**Endangered and Threatened Species and Critical Habitats  
under the Jurisdiction of the National Marine Fisheries Service**

**South Carolina**

Listed Species	Scientific Name	Status	Date Listed
<b>Marine Mammals</b>			
blue whale	<i>Balaenoptera musculus</i>	Endangered	12/02/70
finback whale	<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>	Endangered	12/02/70
humpback whale	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>	Endangered	12/02/70
right whale	<i>Eubalaena glacialis</i>	Endangered	12/02/70
sei whale	<i>Balaenoptera borealis</i>	Endangered	12/02/70
sperm whale	<i>Physeter macrocephalus</i>	Endangered	12/02/70
<b>Turtles</b>			
green sea turtle	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	Threatened <sup>1</sup>	07/28/78
hawksbill sea turtle	<i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i>	Endangered	06/02/70
Kemp's ridley sea turtle	<i>Lepidochelys kemp</i>	Endangered	12/02/70
leatherback sea turtle	<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>	Endangered	06/02/70
loggerhead sea turtle	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	Threatened	07/28/78
<b>Fish</b>			
shortnose sturgeon	<i>Acipenser brevirostrum</i>	Endangered	03/11/67

**Species Proposed for Listing**

None

**Designated Critical Habitat**

None

**Proposed Critical Habitat**

None

Candidate Species <sup>1</sup>	Scientific Name
<b>Fish</b>	
dusky shark	<i>Carcharhinus obscurus</i>
sand tiger shark	<i>Odontaspis taurus</i>
night shark	<i>Carcharinus signatus</i>
Atlantic sturgeon	<i>Acipenser oxyrhynchus oxyrhynchus</i>
speckled hind	<i>Epinephelus drummondhayi</i>
Warsaw grouper	<i>Epinephelus nigritus</i>

<sup>1</sup> Candidate species are not protected under the Endangered Species Act, but concerns about their status indicate that they may warrant listing in the future. Federal agencies and the public are encouraged to consider these species during project planning so that future listings may be avoided.

<sup>1</sup> Green turtles are listed as threatened, except for breeding populations of green turtles in Florida and on the Pacific Coast of Mexico, which are listed as endangered.